

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
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- (2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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Reims: FBI-505
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TO : Washington
FROM : [redacted]
SUBJECT : KIMMER DEVA
SOURCE : [redacted]
REFERENCE : [redacted]
EVALUATION: B-3

1. KIMMER DEVA was born in Mitrovica in 1905 of a rich middle class family, strictly Albanian in character. He attended the French elementary schools in Belgrade and Robert's College in Turkey, from which he graduated with a scientific degree in 1920. In that year, he registered at the University of Götting, Austria. He completed his university studies in Austria and went to Egypt, where he worked for several years at the Ottoman Bank. Later, he was employed by a British commercial firm in Turkey.
2. In 1931, he returned to his home town of Mitrovica, where he organized a lumber industry, which, within a few years, became one of the most successful in Yugoslavia.
3. His political activities began in 1931, immediately after the capitulation of Yugoslavia to the German Army. He made attempts to save the Albanians of Kosovo, who were then under the domination of the German Army of occupation, without any civil administration. The Germans desired that the provisional administration of the Kosovo region should be Albanian, and DEVA was assigned the task of forming and directing the local civil government. Clashes occurred between Albanian and Serbian extremists, and DEVA defended the Albanian interests. (For tactical and political reasons the Germans did not wish to side Mitrovica to Albania.)
4. DEVA's most important work was accomplished between September 1943 and August 1944. During this period, he was Foreign Minister and later head of the League of Pristina, the purpose of which was to defend the regional autonomy of Kosovo from Yugoslavia. DEVA did what he could to preserve the Albanian interest in Kosovo and to combat Communism. He was reluctant in his fight against Communism, as he was the first to realize that the Albanian Committee of National Liberation (Keshilli Nacional Liruesor) was controlled from Kosovo and its purpose was to deceive Albanians, with its democratic aims.
5. As Foreign Minister, DEVA was unsuccessful in his fight against the Albanian Communist Party, because his subordination in the case of self interests eventually joined up with the Communists. DEVA's sentiments are for the Western Powers, and he continually urged the democratic elements of Albania to sever relations with Communism and wage an independent fight against the regime and the Germans.
6. DEVA speaks Albanian, English, French, German, Turkish, Greek, Arabic, Serbo-Croat, Bulgarian and Czech. His western technical and intellectual training is extensive, and he is a skilled engineer in both mining and lumbering. In addition, he is familiar with the techniques of finance and banking.

Comment: Subject is considered a leader of the Albanians in the Kosovo region. This, coupled with his educational background, sets him out as an important factor in the present planning of Albanian resistance action in Italy. Although he is neither a member of the Independent Bloc nor the Balli Kombetar, his potentialities for playing an important role in a future Albanian regime should be taken into account.

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